

# Wayne Allard

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### **SENATOR WAYNE ALLARD SECURES \$153.7 MILLION IN MASS TRANSIT FUNDING FOR COLORADO**

#### ***Key Senate panel signs off on appropriations legislation***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has secured more than \$153.7 million for mass transit projects in Colorado next year. The funding was included in a 2006 transportation appropriations bill approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee Thursday.

“This funding will allow us to finish up the Southeast light rail component of T-REX in Denver, maintain older portions of the system and begin work on the West corridor,” said Senator Allard, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. “It also will allow us to maintain, expand and improve the Colorado Transit Coalition’s projects that provide bus services in rural areas, along with transportation options for the elderly and disabled.”

“Enlarging light rail will provide better options for Denver residents seeking alternative ways to commute, as well as critical public transportation for rural Coloradoans,” the Senator said. “In a growing state like Colorado, there is enormous pressure on our transportation systems and infrastructure. The funding in this legislation will help our state meet those challenges and continue to prosper.”

Colorado funding approved by the panel includes:

- \* \$58.9 million in formula funding, which can be spent at the discretion of the state;
- \* \$3.6 million to improve and maintain existing light rail lines;
- \* \$80 million to finish the Southeast Light Rail line;
- \* \$5 million to begin work on the new West Corridor Light Rail line;
- \* \$6 million for bus and bus facilities

Senator Allard also is chairman of the Senate Banking Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation.

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